

NEWS & VIEWS

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION FOR MEMBERS
OF HENDRICKS POWER COOPERATIVE

NOVEMBER 2024
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AROUND TOWN

Calendar of Events

NOVEMBER 1
Indiana Electric Cooperatives Page Day - Applications Open
High school students can spend a day at the Indiana Statehouse on Tue, Jan 28.
Apply and learn more:
IECPageDay.org

NOVEMBER 5
General Election
Have your voice heard! Voting is critical to a healthy democracy.
Learn more: indianavoters.in.gov

NOVEMBER 11
Veterans Day
Honoring all who served. We appreciate you!

NOVEMBER 17-DECEMBER 27
Winterland Light Show
Ellis Park, Danville
Sun-Thu 6-9pm, Fri-Sat 6-10pm
Celebrate the holidays with the Winterland Light Show. Santaland is open on Fri & Sat! Closed Thanksgiving & Christmas.
Learn more: tinyurl.com/u7fhxj2e

NOVEMBER 28 & 29
Thanksgiving Holiday
We are thankful for our members! Our office will be closed on Thanksgiving and the following Friday.

DECEMBER 6
Holiday Fest
Hendricks Co. 4-H Fairgrounds
9am-3pm
Kick off the holiday season by enjoying craft booths, a cookie walk, entertainment, and lunch.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



Holiday Break Bags

Hendricks Power launches holiday break bag donation drive for students

Hendricks Power is proud to announce its initiative to support a hunger-free holiday season for local students. This year, the organization is collecting non-perishable food donations for holiday break bags for students who may face food insecurity during the school break.

From November 1st to 27th, members are encouraged to contribute convenient non-perishable items from the list below. Donations can be dropped off at the Hendricks Power office at 86 N CR 500 E in Avon during office hours, Monday-Friday, 7:30 am to 4:30 pm. **Donate 2+ items for a free ice scraper mitten!**

The holiday break bags will be assembled and distributed to local blessing boxes in time for winter break, ensuring that students can access nutritious meals when school is not in session. "Our mission is to serve our community, and during this holiday season, we want to help reduce stress for families that might need extra support," said Heather Thompson, Director of Marketing, Member Engagement & Community Relations of Hendricks Power. "We are empowering our community to support each other. Every donation, no matter how small, can make a significant difference in the lives of students and their families."

Together, we can make this holiday season a little brighter for those in need.

Donate Now!

Donate 2+ non-perishable food items by November 27 and receive a FREE ice scraper mitten.

**Available while supplies last.*

► Food Items Needed:

- Soup
- Cereal
- Jelly
- Peanut Butter
- Fruit Cups
- Snacks
- Mac & Cheese Cups
- Oatmeal Cups
- Granola Bars



FREE GIFT

NOVEMBER 2024

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A Touchstone Energy® Cooperative



Empowering Youth Award Winners

Two local teachers awarded \$250 for their classrooms in recognition



Hendricks Power proudly awarded two Empowering Youth Awards to local teachers in September: Mrs. Kristie Rambis from Bainbridge Elementary School and Mrs. Laura Searcy from Cascade Middle School.

This award honors K-12 teachers who inspire their students and make a meaningful difference in their classrooms. Hendricks Power received an impressive 75 nominations from students, parents, and community members. The winners each received \$250 for educational items from their wish lists, a trophy to celebrate their achievements, and donuts for their classrooms.

Mrs. Rambis is a dedicated first-grade teacher. Among the nominations she received was by a grateful parent of a former student. Rambis played a pivotal role in helping a student secure an Individualized Education Program (IEP) and accommodations for a recently discovered vision condition.

Mrs. Searcy teaches agriculture at Cascade Middle School. One of her nominations was made by Cascade's principal. She has worked tirelessly to develop classes and curricula that provide students with hands-on opportunities to work with animals and cultivate plants.

"Hendricks Power is proud to recognize the extraordinary efforts teachers make every day," said Emily Thomas, Manager of Communications at Hendricks Power. "Through this initiative, we were happy to bring appreciation and awareness to our hard-working teachers who make a real difference in their classrooms. We hope these funds allow them and their students more opportunities in the future."

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



HPC Sponsors Cybersecurity Luncheon with Hendricks County Senior Services

Members of the Hendricks Power IT team educate local seniors about staying safe online

On Tuesday, October 8th, Hendricks Power provided more than 100 seniors with a boxed lunch from Chick-fil-A and an opportunity to learn about cybersecurity. The Hendricks Power IT team discussed the importance of password strength, multifactor authentication, and gave tips on how to spot telephone and email scams.

Amy Watson, Director of Technology at Hendricks Power, added, "Some of our senior community members often fall victim to different scams, especially those that use high-pressure tactics to create panic, like fake utility bill collections. We want to help them learn how to protect themselves and avoid these situations."

Emily Thomas, Manager of Marketing Communications at Hendricks Power, added, "Unfortunately, we frequently hear about our members becoming victims of telephone and online scams. We aim to provide guidance on the right questions to ask and the steps to take if you receive a suspicious email or phone call. Scammers are becoming increasingly sophisticated, making it harder to differentiate between legitimate communications and fraud. Once they have your personal information and payment, recovering your security and funds, in some cases, can be nearly impossible."

This lunch was the second in a series of informative events at Hendricks County Senior Services. The previous session focused on residential energy efficiency and winterizing your home. Details about the next sponsored luncheon will be announced in early 2025.

If you are a member of Hendricks Power and have questions or concerns about staying safe online, please visit our website or call us at (317) 745-5473.



Stuff Your Turkey, Not Your Bill

5 Savings Tips for Hosting Thanksgiving Day!

Thanksgiving is a heart-warming holiday when family and friends reunite to feast and give thanks. However, cooking and extra guests in your home can contribute to an annual increase in energy usage.

Here are some energy-saving tips which can help lower energy bills following the Thanksgiving celebration:

Have a Timeline

Schedule your bake times to avoid leaving your oven on unnecessarily. Preheating your oven only takes 5-8 minutes, so plan accordingly. Cook as many dishes as possible in your oven at once; most recipes allow for variations of 25 degrees Fahrenheit in baking temperatures. Avoid the temptation of opening your oven door until your dish has finished!

Allow Leftovers to Cool

After your feast, don't rush to pack up and store your meal. Allow your leftovers to cool on the counter (no longer than two hours) so your fridge and freezer won't have to work harder cooling your food. So, take it easy and digest it after your feast!

Use Smaller Appliances

If the oven is full and you have additional dishes to warm or cook, use smaller appliances, like a slow cooker, air fryer, toaster oven, or pressure cooker. These helpful tools use less than half as much electricity as the oven.

Use Your Dishwasher

Don't stress that mound of dishes! Using an ENERGY-STAR certified dishwasher uses less than half as much hot water as hand washing, so be sure to use your dishwasher when possible. Many even offer a 60-minute washing option!

Adjust Your Thermostat

If you expect a large group of family and friends, turn down the thermostat a few degrees! The extra guests and heat from cooking can add up fast and make your home uncomfortably warm for everyone.

EFFICIENCY TIPS

Time of Use Efficiency Tips

Take advantage of Off-Peak and Super Off-Peak rates to save

Automate

Program and schedule as many things in your home as possible to use minimal energy from 5-8pm. Most thermostats, water heaters, dishwashers, and washers/dryers can be programmed now.

Turn off electronics during weeknight dinners

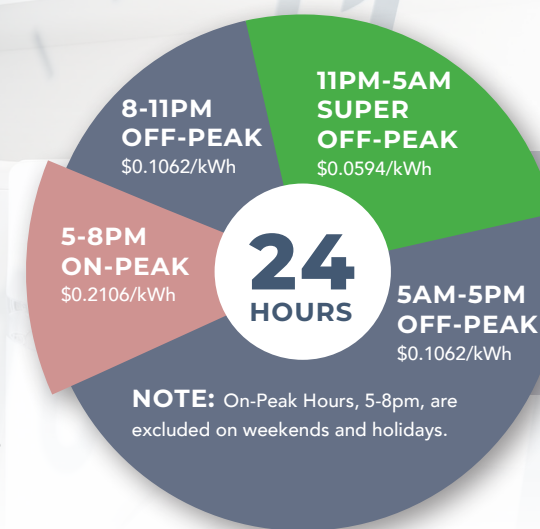
Shutting down game consoles, computers, and TVs for 30 minutes will make a difference if done every week night. Saving money and spending quality time with your family is a win-win.

Avoid showers/baths and dishwashing until 8pm on weeknights

Not taking showers or baths, or running the dishwasher before 8pm during the week can make a difference in your bill if done routinely.

Laundry

Waiting until the weekend to do your laundry can be a smart move. The On-Peak hours are excluded



NOTE: On-Peak Hours, 5-8pm, are excluded on weekends and holidays.

Do you know when you use the most energy? Log into SmartHub on your desktop or mobile device to monitor your daily and hourly usage.

on weekends and holidays. Doing your laundry during these times can allow you to take advantage of reduced rates.

Thermostat

Pre-heat or pre-cool your home during cheaper, Off-Peak hours (e.g., early morning or late evening). Then, allow the temperature to change slightly during peak hours.